

County of Los Angeles – Department of Mental Health
OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2014
 MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
 DR. LARRY GASCO, CHAIRPERSON, FACILITATING

Presenter	Discussion	Motion	Recommendation/Action
<p>Dr. Larry Gasco Chairman's Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to Order and Roll Call • Recognition of Service – Commissioners Hayward McNeill and Delores Huffman were honored with a scroll and the “Mental Health Commission’s Isaiah Award” for 16 years of service on the Commission appointed by the Second District. Health Deputy Kathleen Austria, Chairman Gasco, fellow Commissioners, staff and the public shared comments, said thank you in appreciation of their valued service. • New Commissioners – Chairman Gasco introduced two Commissioners appointed by the Second District, Jo Helen Graham, MA and Songhai Miguda-Armstead, JD. Commissioner Graham, a retired educator with 38 years of employment with LAUSD. She advocates improving mental health in the community and for her son. Commissioner Miguda-Armstead, JD, a City Deputy Attorney for Los Angeles advocates for homeless alternatives for people living on the streets and an active participant on the Diversion Plan for LA County. Ms. Miguda-Armstead also holds a degree in Psychology. • Executive Committee Report-Chairman Gasco gave an overview of the meeting held November 6. Main items discussed 	<p>Motion to Approve the Minutes of September 2014 – Minutes approved unanimously</p>	<p>Absent Excused: Herman DeBose, Howard Askins, Barry Perrou, and Victoria Sofro Absent: Fred Leaf</p>

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	<p>were clarifying Commissioners’ role in the Assisted Outpatient Treatment (Laura’s Law) quarterly meetings, Cathy Warner’s presentation on the status of the Wellness Centers and WOW workers in Adult Systems of Care, and a site visit to directly operated clinics in Service Area 3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MHSA/ SAAC Chairs – Chairman Gasco announced Service Areas 5 and 6 along with the Commission will host the first Legislative Breakfast on Friday, December 12, 2014. • December Offsite in San Gabriel Valley – The meeting location for the San Gabriel Valley offsite is confirmed. It will take place December 18, 2014 at the LA County Arboretum and Botanic Gardens in Arcadia. Formal invitation letters and flyers will be distributed to all agencies and elected officials in the service area. • Recognition to DMH for Challenge Award – Chairman Gasco publically recognized DMH for receiving the California State Association of Counties “Challenge Award” for the Care Clinic Innovation model at Long Beach Mental Health. The Care Clinic model was overwhelmingly received because its success was realized without using additional funding. • Mental Health Diversion and County Jails Update– Dr. Stephen Shea, Deputy Director, Jail Mental Health Programs 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Shea opened a Q&A discussion encouraging feedback from the public. The following issues were discussed <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Housing issues regarding the Women's Reintegration program and the behavioral contract CAB – Client Advisory Board formed to interface with DMH EMT GED program integration for participants to earn a GED. Dr. Shea concluded saying the Diversion Plan presented to the Board by District Attorney Jackie Lacey was well received. The plan has moved from concept to implementation. 		
Dr. Southard DMH Report	<p>DMH Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AB 109 – Dr. Southard discussed more changes involving AB 109. Probation services were eliminated. It is expected that there will be a decrease in clients keeping appointments. Prop 47 – The proposition passed on November 4 to reduce sentencing for non-violent offenders. One challenge for DMH is that the county mental health systems may have a large new cost responsibility. Health Neighborhoods – A UCLA grant among other grants will help support the implementation of health neighborhoods. 		ACTION - None
Public Comments	There were 11 Public Comments. There were no unresolved issues.		

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Commissioners' Reports	<p>Commissioner Lue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asian Pacific Islander organization will present at the December offsite meeting Attended the Asian American Mental Health Conference. Elected officials encouraged people in Service Area 3 to attend the conferences sponsored by DMH and others. <p>Commissioner Cooperberg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One psychiatrist was recruited for the Antelope Valley. They are assigned to the Antelope Valley Hospital and Mental Health America. Thank you to Barbara Wilson, SA 2, for networking the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff to participate in the law enforcement training. There have been 350 officers trained to communicate with people who have psychological illnesses. 		
SAAC 2 Report Barbara Wilson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparing for Debbie Innes-Gomberg's visit and the MHSA annual update input. Task force created to work with colleges with ways to help students ethically reduce legal actions Discussed board and care agency closures in the Service Area. Seeks the support of the Commission. 		ACTION – Schedule Ms. Wilson to attend Executive Committee in January 2015 to further discuss support from Commission.
SAAC 5 Report Celinda Jungheim and Karen Macedonio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SAACs 5 and 6, with the Mental Health Commission, are hosting a Legislative Breakfast on Friday, December 12th at the Junior Blind location. The program will feature 		

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	<p>Dr. Southard and DA Jackie Lacey talking about Diversion Plans in LA County. Dr. Herman DeBose will be the Master of Ceremonies. State Assemblyman Sebastian Ridley-Thomas has committed to attend. Other elected officials have been invited.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our October SAAC 5 Meeting featured a presentation by Rick Mogil from the Didi Hirsch Suicide Prevention Center. The presentation was followed by discussion pertaining to the high suicide rate in Service Area 5 of mainly middle and upper class Caucasian males. Although these people are not our target population they are of concern. • Our special Open Meeting where the Westside Mental Health Network and SAAC 5 join together for a special meeting will be held at noon on December 12th at Burton Chase Park in Marina Del Rey. We will be honoring programs that promote Hope, Wellness and Recovery through Artistic Expression. The Painted Brain has designed a beautiful certificate for us. • The resource directory for the Westside Mental Health Network is 		

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	also being updated and distributed.		
SAAC 6 Report Sharon Lyle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking forward to participating in the health neighborhood pilot. 		
SAAC 8 John Czernek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation from Cambodian community that was well informed Health neighborhood pilot and task force implementation 		
LACCC Betty Dandino, Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holiday party on December 12 for all affiliates sponsored by Helena Ditka Looking forward to a new change and growth of DMH that impacts the LACCC and Empowerment and Advocacy Division 		
Thanks and Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delores Huffman thanked the Commission for the experience and knowledge gained over the past 16 years, and welcomed the new Commissioners Health Deputy Kathleen Austria thanked Delores Huffman and Hayward McNeill for 16 years of service on the Commission, and welcomed the new Commissioners. 		
Meeting adjourned	<p>Next Meeting – Annual Community Offsite Meeting December 18, 2014 10 – 11 am Network 11 am – 1:30 pm Call to Order LA County Arboretum and Botanic Gardens 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA 91007</p>		